

Message Text

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APPROVED BY: EA/PRCM:OVARMSRONG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 8345

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031395

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 31395 ACTION HONG KONG NEW DELHI PEKING
INFO COLOMBO DACCA ISLAMABAD KABUL KATHMANDU MOSCOW TOKYO
CINCPAC 11 FEB

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 031395

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGD: PFOR, PINR, CH, IN

SUBJECT: U.S. MAPS OF SINO-INDIAN BORDER

REF: STATE 214587 (NOTAL)

1. AS MOST ADDRESSEES AWARE, DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN
CONSIDERING FOR SOME MONTHS POSSIBLE CHANGE IN DEMAR-

CATION ON USG MAPS OF WESTERN SECTOR OF SINO-INDIAN
BORDER. (WE HAVE BEEN SHOWING AS INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY
IN DISPUTED AKSAI CHIN REGION ONLY INDIAN CLAIM LINE
WITHOUT INDICATING CHINESE CLAIM LINE WHICH IS ALSO
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SUBSTANTIALLY THE DE FACTO LINE OF CONTROL.) WE HAVE

CONSIDERED BOTH (A) CONTINUING PRESENT PRACTICE UNLESS AND UNTIL PRESSED BY PRC AND (B) SHOWING DE-FACTO LINE OF CONTROL WITHOUT INDICATING EITHER INDIAN OR CHINESE CLAIM LINES IN THIS AREA. AFTER WEIGHING ALL FACTORS, WE HAVE DECIDED TO CONTINUE COMPROMISE APPROACH FIRST USED ON MAP IN LATEST DEPARTMENT OF STATE "BACKGROUND NOTES" ON PRC (ISSUED JULY 1974). HEREAFTER ALL USG MAPS OF SINO-INDIAN BOUNDARY WEST OF NEPAL WILL SHOW BOTH INDIAN AND CHINESE CLAIM LINES, INDICATING THE DE-FACTO LINE OF CONTROL, AND WHERE SPACE PERMITS SHADING WILL INDICATE AREA IN DISPUTE.

2. THIS WILL STILL BE A DEVIATION FROM OUR NORMAL MAPPING PROCEDURE, WHICH IN ALL OTHER CASES (EXCEPT FOR ISRAEL) OF BORDER DISPUTES SHOWS THE DE-FACTO BOUNDARY WITH A DISCLAIMER. THIS APPROACH, HOWEVER, CORRECTS THE PRESENT ANOMALY THAT FAVORS THE INDIAN POSITION, REPRESENTS THE FACTUAL SITUATION AND BY INCLUDING THE INDIAN CLAIM LINE, SHOULD MITIGATE INDIAN REACTION.

3. FOR PEKING AND HONG KONG: WE ARE AWARE THAT THIS DECISION WILL NOT FULLY SATISFY THE PRC. MORE DETAILS OF THE CONSIDERATIONS BEHIND OUR DECISION WILL BE FORWARDED BY LETTER. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE

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